Hey everyone. Are you all genki?

**Kon'nichiwa, minasan. Genkidesu ka?**

As I come to the end of my journey here in these unique and challenging times, I would like to take a few moments to thank each of you and to say my farewell.

**Kono kon'nan'na jidai ni koko de no tabi no owari ni kitanode, sukoshi jikan o totte minasan ni kansha shi, wakare o tsugetai to omoimasu.**

What do you think? Should I speak in English? Or should I speak in Japanese?

**Dōomoimasuka? Watashi wa eigo de hanasubekidesu ka? Soretomo nihongo de hanasubekidesu ka?**

I think English is okay because everyone should be good at it now.

**Eigo wa ima wa daremoga jōzu ni naru hazunanode daijōbuda to omoimasu.**

But I will try to speak in Japanese. After all, you have all taught me some Japanese over these past five years.

**Shikashi, watashi wa nihongo de hana shimasu. Kono 5-nenkan, minasan wa watashi ni nihongo o oshiete kuremashita.**

Well. I learned various Japanese. For example, "Oh my god. I can't believe it!" and "that's disgusting" and "good job!" and "yume wo jitsugensuru." You were accommodating from day one! Like those, I have learned so many things from you, whether about Japanese culture or your perspectives in life.

 **Iroirona nihongo o manabimashita. Tatoeba,`nante kotoda. Shinjirarenai!' Soshite `kimui' soshite `yoi shigotodesu!' To `yume wo jitsugen suru'. Anatagata wa shonichi kara ukeirete kure mashita! Sonoyōni, nihon'nobunka ya jinseikan nado, takusan no koto o anatatachi kara manabimashita.**

I feel fortunate to have had the chance to meet all of you and to be your teacher. For the past five years, I have witnessed some of your growth in your academic life and personal life. I have seen how much you are becoming such outstanding unique individuals. I've been so impressed by your perspectives, opinions, and works. I know that you will go on to do great things in this world. It has been a great pleasure to teach and know you.

**Minasan ni o ai dekite, sensei ni nareta no wa kōundeshita. Kako 5-nenkan, watashi wa anata no gakugyō to shiseikatsu no seichō no ichibu o mokugeki shite kimashita. Watashi wa anata ga dore dake sono yōna kesshutsu shita yunīkuna hito ni natte iru no ka o mitekimashita. Watashi wa anata no shiten, iken, soshite sakuhin ni totemo kanmei o ukemashita. Watashi wa anata ga kono sekai de subarashī koto o nashitogeru shi tsudzukeru koto o shitte imasu. Anatatachi o oshie, shiru koto wa ōkina yorokobideshita.**

I am also grateful that even with our short conversation in class, along the hallway, in the cafeteria, during the Forestopia festival, during waraji excursion, during the ski trip, and even by checking your essays, I could get to know little pieces of you. I feel that I have come to know more about you, and I will miss you all more than I could say. I will surely miss your smiles, laughter, hearing your stories, watching your eyes light up when talking about your passions, your energy inside the classroom, and many more.

**Mata, kurasu de no mijikai kaiwa, rōka, kafeteria, foresutopiafesutibaru, warajiensoku, sukī, soshite essei o chekku suru kotode sae, watashi wa ikutsu ka no chīsana danpen o shiru koto ga dekita koto ni kansha shite imasu. Watashi wa anata no koto o motto shiru yō ni natta to kanjite imasu, soshite watashi wa anatatachi o koishiku omoudeshou. Anatanoegao, waraigoe,-hanashi o kii tari, jōnetsu ya kyōshitsu-nai no enerugī ni tsuite hanasu toki ni me o kagayaka se tari suru no o mirenaku naru no ga samishiidesu.**

As I go back to the Philippines, I will never forget Gokase Secondary School with profound feelings. I say goodbye today with great sadness but also with deep gratitude for the support and friendship you have offered me over the last five years. Thank you for welcoming me and for accepting me into your community. Thank you for being my student, friend, and my family here in Gokase. Thank you for inspiring me to be better and for changing me for good.

**Firipin ni kaette mo, Manabinomori o wasureru koto wa arimasen. Kyo wa, kanashimi dakedenaku, kako 5-nenkan ni go shien to go aiko o tamawarimashita koto o kokoroyori kansha mōshiagemasu. Watashi o kangei shi, anatatachi no nakama ni watashi o ukeirete kurete arigatō. Koko Gokase de watashi no seito, yūjin, soshite watashi no kazoku de ite kurete arigatō. Watashi o yori yoku suru yō ni unagashi, watashi o eikyū ni kaete kurete arigatō.**

I hope we will meet again someday wherever in Japan or anywhere else in the world, and that until then, you all stay healthy and happy. I like you all very much, and I will never forget you.

**いつかまた日本や世界のどこででも会えることを願っています。それまで、皆さんは健康で幸せでいられますように。私はあなた方全員がとても好きです、そして私はあなた方を決して忘れません**

**Itsuka mata Nihon ya sekai no dokode de aeru koto o negatte imasu. Sore made, minasan wa kenkōde shiawasede i raremasu yō ni. Watashi wa anatagata ga totemo sukidesu, soshite watashi wa anatagata o kesshite wasuremasen**

Thank you very much.

**どうもありがとうございます。**

 **Dōmo arigatōgozaimasu.**